

## MEXICANS SLAY AMERICAN SOLDIER

TEUT LOSSES  
APPALLING IN  
FRESH DRIVE

Great Numbers of Germans  
Fall Before Guns of the  
Enemy at Avocourt.

## ATTACKS REPULSED

French Foil Charges of Foe  
and Capture a Teuton  
Fort on Hill 304.

Paris, May 18, (11:45 a. m.)—Several attacks were made by German troops on the Verdun front last night in an effort to capture a redoubt at Avocourt. The official statement of today says the Germans were repulsed each time and that they lost heavily.

French troops after severe fighting captured a German fort on the northeast slope of Hill 304.

Three German trenches north of Hill 287 were raided by French forces which killed or captured the occupants of these positions.

On the Verdun front east of the Meuse the artillery on both sides was active during the night.

Two French aeroplanes dropped 80 more shells on the railway station at Metz on the night of May 16.

The text of the statement follows:

"Between the river Oise and the river Aisne a strong reconnoitering party of the enemy which was endeavoring to approach our lines in the neighborhood of Queuenvieres was subjected by us to a counter attack and dispersed, leaving some dead upon the field.

"On the left bank of the river Meuse, the Germans endeavored several times last night to capture the redoubt in the wood of Avocourt. Repulsed each time by our fire, they suffered serious losses. We executed, north of Hill 287 about 3 o'clock in the morning, a surprise attack on a German trench. The men occupying this position were either killed or captured. The French troops took also a small fort of the enemy on the northeast slope of Hill 304.

"The night of May 16-17 French aviators conducted numerous bombardments along the front to the north of Verdun. Fifteen shells of large calibre were thrown down upon an important depot of munitions between Bancourt and Arracourt, 10 kilometers (six miles) south of Sedan; five more on the railroad station at Sedan, where a fire broke out and 15 on a depot of munitions not far from Azannes. During the same night two French aeroplanes threw down 80 shells on the railroad station at Metz-Sablons."

German War Report.

Berlin, May 18, (via London, 2:57 p. m.)—The repulse this morning of three attacks by the French against German positions on Hill 304 northwest of Verdun was announced by the war office today.

The text of today's statement follows:

"Western front—Hand grenade engagements southwest of Laon continued.

"Three further attacks by the French against our positions on Hill 304 were repulsed early this morning. During a retreat through Esnes the enemy suffered very heavy losses in the surrounding open country. This refers to attempts to attack made by a fresh African division, consisting of mixed white and colored French troops.

"An advance by weak enemy forces southwest of Reich Akerkopf failed completely.

"Eastern front: An enemy aeroplane was brought down east of Krashin.

"Balkan front: There is nothing to report."

Austro War Report.

Berlin, May 18, (via wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—Artillery engagements are in progress all along the Austro-Italian front on which the Austrians began an offensive movement several days ago. The official Austrian statement of May 17 reports the capture of new positions on the Dobrodo plateau.

Offensive Is Begun.

Paris, May 18, (5:45 a. m.)—The attack by the Austrians against the Italian front in the southern Tyrol which has gradually extended to the entire Austro-Italian front, is being followed here with close attention. It is generally believed in military circles that the great Austrian offensive which has been expected for some time past has at last begun.

No importance is attached to the falling back of the Italians' advance lines which is considered an obvious move as they were not sufficiently strong to resist an attack on a large scale. Although the Italian central position on the Lavarone plateau, is not yet involved it is thought probable that the principal effort of the Austrians will be made in that direction. It seems evident that the Austrian general intend to try to carry out their former plan of smashing a way through to the Vincesina plain. The fact that heavy reinforcements have been moved up under cover of the formidable series of forts stretching from Folgarida and Lavarone favors the belief that Vincesina is the real objective of the offensive.

British Start  
Inquiry Into  
Irish Revolt

London, May 18.—(Noon.)—Hearings were opened today by the royal commission which, under the presidency of Baron Hardinge, was appointed to inquire into the Irish rebellion and the conduct and degree of responsibility of the military and executive in Ireland in that connection. The first witness was Sir Matthew Nathan, who resigned as under-secretary for Ireland after the outbreak of the rebellion.

Sir Matthew read a long statement in which he outlined the formation of the National Volunteers, which he said were raised as an answer to the organization of the Ulster Volunteers. He also read a manifesto issued by a majority of the provisional committee of the National Volunteers opposing the active participation of Ireland in the war.

Of 180,000 members enrolled previously, Sir Matthew said, not more than 11,000 adhered to the loyal section. The original provisional committee and the vast bulk of the members declared themselves loyal to John Redmond and the Irish parliamentary party.

The witness also read a manifesto issued by the disloyal section, in which it was said that henceforth Ireland should provide for its own defense by means of a permanent army and a trained force of volunteers. The manifesto also intimated a purpose to resist by force any attempt to compel men of Ireland to join the British army prior to the establishment of a free national government of Ireland.

Sir Matthew Nathan testified that fear that the military service act would be applied to Ireland induced a number of the national volunteers to join the Sinn Fein movement, so that at the beginning of the disturbances there were 16,000 hostile volunteers throughout Ireland, of whom 3,000 were in Dublin.

Considerable sums of money, he said, had been coming from America, the funds being used for the purchase of arms and the printing of seditious papers and leaflets. It is estimated, he added, that 16,000 pounds sterling had been received from America and paid into Dublin banks from the middle of September, 1914, to the following April, when the money was withdrawn. After that it was not found possible to trace the methods of the receipt in Ireland of money from the United States.

The police estimated before the outbreak that the volunteers had about 1,800 rifles, pistols and other firearms and that there were 825 rifles in Dublin. Explosives had also been found in different parts of the country, he said.

Baron Hardinge asked Sir Matthew why no action had been taken to prevent drilling under arms.

"Because we were afraid to enforce the act," said Sir Matthew.

"We deterred practically for political purposes."

When asked what action had been taken to report this to the then chief secretary for Ireland, Augustine Birrell, Sir Matthew declared the chief secretary was fully aware of it.

The witness also admitted that he knew, as also did the chief secretary that women were being trained to look after wounded men and that sham fights for the taking of Dublin castle were being held.

## THE WAR TODAY

The Austrian offensive on the Italian front is being pushed vigorously and the Italians have fallen back to the southern Tyrol before the Austrian onslaught.

In the fighting about Verdun the French have now partly ousted the Germans. Paris today reports the capture of a German fortified position on the northeast slope of the hill.

On the German side an attempt was made to capture a redoubt at Avocourt, on the French left flank but the assaults are declared to have been repulsed with heavy German losses.

Other operations in the Verdun region, according to the Paris afternoon bulletin, were confined for the most part to a successful raid by the French on German trenches north of Hill 287, west of Hill 301 and to heavy firing by the artillery, which was active all along this front during the night.

The Austrians continue on the offensive against the Italians in the region of the head of the Gulf of Trieste. Within the last few days the Austrians claim to have captured 6,200 Italians and more than thirty guns by infantry attacks in Tyrol. Some reports state that a number of attacks by the Austrians against Tegenaria were repulsed with heavy casualties, the bodies of numerous Austrians floating away in the river Adige.

The repulse of another Austrian attack in the Sugana valley is also reported by the Italians. The fighting on the French and Belgian fronts has consisted chiefly of bombardments northwest of Verdun.

Air combats have become frequent again on the western front several German aeroplanes having been brought down by British and French aviators. In one of the raids American aviators fighting with the French army under the title of the Franco-American flying corps took part in their first foray as an individual unit.

The fighting along the northern end of the eastern front has been in favor of the Russians.

KAISER ASKS  
GERMANS TO  
OBSERVE LAW

Berlin Government Admonishes Citizens in America to Obey Doctrines.

## BERNSTORFF ADVISED

Count Passes Word to Consuls—To End Breaches of Neutrality.

Washington, May 18.—Germany, through Count von Bernstorff, has instructed all German consuls in the United States to admonish German citizens in their districts scrupulously to observe American laws. This was done in an effort to end various alleged violations of American neutrality.

The ambassador acted on instructions from the Berlin foreign office. The action was announced today in this official statement from the German embassy:

"In consequences of cases which have occurred of late the German ambassador has sent instructions to all German consuls in the United States to strongly impress upon German citizens living in their districts that it is their duty scrupulously to obey the laws of the state in which they reside."

To Prevent Plots.

It was said at the German embassy that the instructions were designed to prevent plots or lawlessness on the part of German citizens who might be disposed to engage in such. The German government, it was said, looks with great disfavor upon any such conduct and desires that they shall not engage in any undertaking in any way outside the law.

It was not disclosed whether specific cases have been brought to the attention of the German government but it was made clear that Berlin officials want the United States and its people to understand that they have not countenanced any illegal affairs with which German citizens or sympathizers in this country have been connected.

Count Bernstorff's instructions were received last night and were forwarded to German consuls immediately.

AMERICAN YOUTH  
TO BE RELEASED

Young Kilgallon, Held in Connection With Irish Revolt, Will Soon Gain His Freedom.

New York, May 18.—Luke Kilgallon of Par Rockaway, Long Island, was notified today by the state department at Washington that his son, John A. Kilgallon, 23 years old, under arrest in Dublin on a charge of participating in the Sinn Fein revolt, would soon be released.

Young Kilgallon was a student in the school conducted by Patrick H. Pearse, the "president" of the "Irish republic," since executed. According to information received by his father, the boy with a number of fellow students were enlisted in a cadet company by Sinn Fein leaders but were kept in ignorance of the purpose for which they were being trained. His father has been informed that a cable message has been received in Washington from the American embassy in London saying that all of the cadets are expected to be given their freedom.

HISSES FOR COLONEL  
IN IOWA CONVENTION

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, May 18.—That the term of "old time love feast" applied to the republican state convention meeting here yesterday was no misnomer was proved when a near riot resulted from the attempt of Robert Healy of Webster county to boost the candidacy of Roosevelt for the presidential nomination at the expense of Senator Albert B. Cummins, the choice of Iowa republicans.

Healy declared that a time for the party to choose the strongest man and characterized Roosevelt as "the greatest man in the world."

At the mention of Roosevelt's name a bedlam of hisses and yells broke loose and Healy was hooted from the stage.

The work of the convention was perfunctory, being simply to ratify the action of the electors at the state-wide primary in their selection of delegates to the Chicago convention in June.

Mine Cause of Sinking.

Paris, May 18, (11:40 a. m.)—It has been definitely established that the British freight steamer Eretria, sunk on Friday last, went to the bottom as a result of striking a mine off the Ile d'Yeu, according to Kenneth S. Patton, American consul at La Rochelle.

The three Americans on board who were among the saved, were Charles Myers, chief steward; Jonas Carlsen, fourth engineer; and Jerry Hayes, fireman.

## BONES AND OLD IRON

NAVY HEAD'S  
5 YEAR PLAN  
IS FORSAKEN

Secretary Daniels' Program for Strengthening Sea Forces Abandoned.

Washington, May 18.—In deciding upon the increase of the navy, the house naval committee today voted to abandon the five-year building program, recommended by Secretary Daniels and to recommend that five battle cruisers, to cost \$20,433,531 each, four scout cruisers, 10 torpedo boat destroyers, 20 submarines, one hospital ship, one oil supply ship and one ammunition supply ship be built during the 1917 fiscal year. The committee voted 13 to 8 on battle cruisers and submarines.

The committee unanimously adopted a resolution by Representative Hensley of Missouri, authorizing the president upon the conclusion of the European war to invite the world powers to a conference to frame a court of arbitration or other body for peaceful settlement of all disputes between nations and appropriating \$200,000 for the purpose.

GERMANY REGRETS  
KILLING SWITZERS

Berne, Switzerland, May 18.—The federal department announced today that the German government had announced regret through the Swiss government that two Swiss citizens lost their lives when the British ship Sussex was torpedoed by a German submarine. The German government has promised to indemnify the families of victims.

On May 8, the Swiss government filed a protest at Berlin against the sinking of the Sussex and demanded an indemnity for the two Swiss citizens who perished.

## Latest Bulletins

London, May 18.—Lloyds announces that the French steamer Mira has been sunk, the announcement gives no details as to her sinking.

Needles, Cal., May 18.—Twenty houses in an Indian settlement near here have been washed away by flood waters of the Colorado river, many alfalfa fields are under water and further damage is threatened today. Two hundred men have succeeded in preventing the river from cutting a channel into the industrial section of the town.

London, May 18.—Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, stated in the house of commons today that the government had been informed by Sir Henry Howard, British minister at the Vatican, that representations have been made to Germany by the Vatican with a view to inducing Germany to abandon submarine warfare.

Peoria, Ill., May 18.—The Peoria Transcript, one of the oldest papers in central Illinois, today went into the hands of a receiver. Fred Stowe, editor, was named receiver. Assets and liabilities are not stated.

House Passes  
Flood Bill; Is  
Up to Senate

Washington, May 18.—Advocates of flood prevention legislation for the Mississippi and Sacramento rivers were hopeful today of early action by the senate on the bill which the house passed last night by an overwhelming vote. The measure would appropriate \$45,000,000 for the Mississippi and \$5,600,000 for the Sacramento. This is contingent upon the Mississippi valley interest contributing an amount equal to one-half of the Mississippi appropriation and the California, an amount equal to the Sacramento appropriation. It was brought out during the debate in the house on the bill that the Mississippi river project would make it possible to reclaim at least fifteen million acres of land and the Sacramento project about one million acres.

NO MORE JURORS  
FOR ORPET CASE

Waukegan, Ill., May 18.—Two hours of questioning venturmen in the hope of speedily filling the jury panel in the trial of Will H. Orpet, the college boy accused of murdering his former sweetheart, Marian Lambert, was fruitless today.

Man after man, summoned on the special venire of one hundred, replied with convincing firmness that he had formed an opinion in the case from what he had heard and read which would disqualify him from being a fair juror.

When the afternoon session began the second special venire of one hundred was in court and the prospect of filling the jury box looked as distant as when the trial began.

WILL REORGANIZE  
ATLANTIC FLEET

Washington, May 18.—Plans for reorganization of the Atlantic fleet which will be announced shortly by Secretary Daniels include the retirement of Admiral Fletcher as commander in chief.

Vice Admiral Henry T. Mayo, now commander of the first division of the fleet with his flag on the Arkansas will succeed Admiral Fletcher as commander in chief. Admiral Fletcher automatically returns to his line rank of rear admiral and probably will be assigned to important strategic work.

Rear Admiral Dewitt Coffman, one of the division commanders of the fleet, will become vice admiral. All the changes become effective tomorrow. Admiral Fletcher has completed his term as commander in chief.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and Vicinity.

Increasing cloudiness tonight, probably showers Friday, slightly warmer tonight.

Temperature at 7 a. m. 42. Highest temperature yesterday 63, lowest temperature last night 37.

Wind velocity at 7 a. m. eight miles per hour.

Precipitation none. Relative humidity at 7 p. m. 45, at 7 a. m. 60, at 1 p. m. today 38. River stage 11.4 feet, with a fall of 4 in the last 24 hours.

J. M. SHERIDAN, Local Forecaster.

GOES ACROSS  
BORDER LINE  
AND IS SHOT

Lone Trooper Strays Over International Boundary and Is Killed.

## FIRED FIRST, CLAIM

General Gavira Asserts Yankee Started the Shooting—Was Drunk?

El Paso, Texas, May 18.—An American soldier who crossed the international boundary a mile and a half east of Juarez early today was shot and killed by Mexican customs guards.

General Gavira, Carranza commander in Juarez, informed General Bell, stating that the American was intoxicated and fired on the Mexicans before they shot him.

General Bell immediately detailed two officers to Juarez and these, in conjunction with two officers assigned by General Gavira and the Mexican military judge, began an investigation of the shooting.

Washington, May 18.—The state department is determined to obtain information at first hand on the attitude of Mexican citizens toward the American punitive expedition and on other conditions in northern Mexico, it became evident today. Consul Marion Letcher, stationed at Chihuahua, arrived at El Paso last night on orders to discuss with General Funston conditions in the state of Chihuahua and to make a similar report by telegraph to Washington. The department announced that other consuls would be ordered from their posts temporarily for similar conferences during the next few weeks. Mr. Letcher and other consuls may be called to Washington if the telegraphic reports prove inadequate. It was explained that means of communication in Mexico are unsatisfactory and that was the sole reason for the action planned.

Secretary Baker was in New York today attending a meeting of officers of the national consumers' league of which he is president. The Mexican situation was reported as improving.

Columbus, N. M., May 18.—The Carranza garrison at Ascension under Colonel Saez is moving south along the American line of communication ostensibly to El Valle. No reason was assigned here for the movement.

Reports from the field indicated that General J. J. Pershing's expeditionary command is experiencing a shortage of soap but otherwise is well rationed and equipped.

Kidnaped Grocer Safe.

Marathon, Texas, May 18.—Jesse Deemer, the Boquillas storekeeper, and Monroe Payne, negro, kidnaped by the Big Bend bandit raiders and rescued by Major George T. Langhorne's cavalry detachment, have reached Boquillas, say official reports.

No official confirmation has yet reached here of the reported engagement between the American troops and the bandits in which six Mexicans were said to have been killed and 75 captured.

According to the official report the rescue of Deemer and Payne took place in the dead of night. Major Langhorne with a detachment of the Eighth cavalry drove in automobiles and trucks to a ranch house, where a part of the Glenn Springs raiders were quartered.

The bandits were surprised, but put up a stiff fight. Two were wounded and two captured. The remainder escaped. The Americans had no losses.

DELEGATES NAMED  
BY TENNESSEE DEMOS

Nashville, Tenn., May 18.—The democratic state convention was still in session at an early hour today after renominating Governor Rye, Railroad Commissioner Enloe and selecting the following delegates at large to the national convention:

Austin Peay, W. H. Harford, Thomas R. Preston and John E. Richardson. Alternates: George L. Berry, Finis J. Garrett, E. E. Edick and J. L. Faust.

The convention endorsed the administration of President Wilson and his foreign policies, commits the party to temperance, opposes the repeal of the liquor laws and calls for the submission of a constitutional amendment granting woman suffrage.

## DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.

Considered keystone resolution for open sessions on nominations. Resumed debate on rivers and harbor appropriation bill.

Resumed general debate on the shipping bill.

George W. Bowers, republican, sworn in for the second West Virginia district, succeeding Representative Brown, democrat, deceased.